

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING A HOLDING  
ELEMENT

Serial No.: 10/502,262

Based Upon: PCT/EP02/14702

Express Mail No.: EV478067765US

Date of Deposit: 07 February 2005

Customer No.: 42419

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Mail Stop PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rule 1.56 and MPEP Section 2001.06(a), Reference AA and References AL, AO-AP (Sheet 1 of 1) listed on Form PTO-1449, are cited in the International Search Report for corresponding International Application PCT/EP02/14702 and are brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly material to examination of this U.S. Patent Application.

Serial No.: 10/502,262

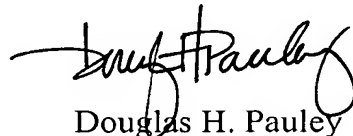
U.S. Patent 6,361,858 corresponds to Reference AL. U.S. Patent 6,410,891 corresponds to Reference AO.

References AL-AN listed on Form PTO-1449 are cited and discussed on Pages 2 and 3 of the Substitute Specification.

Applicants received a copy of Form PCT/DO/EO/905 and note that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received and thus the National Stage file contains a copy of the International Search Report. Applicants understand that pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), the Examiner will consider the references cited in the International Search Report, without any further action by Applicants under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

Form PTO-1449 is enclosed with a copy of each and every non-U.S. Patent reference cited on Form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449  
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

VO-683

SERIAL NO.

10/502,262

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)

Bernd SCHULTHEIS et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,999,147	03/1991	Kojima et al.			
	AB	6,361,858	03/2002	Stedron et al.			
	AC	6,410,891	06/2002	Muskalla et al.			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	197 03 543 A1	08/1998	Germany				
	AM	196 15 371 A1	10/1997	Germany				
	AN	0 890 796 B1	01/2004	EPO				
	AO	199 10 467 C1	10/2000	Germany				
	AP	01110114	04/1989	Japan (Abstract)				

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

USCOMM-DC 80-3985

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